

What is claimed is:

1. A sheet member guide mechanism comprising:

a guide roller for guiding a sheet material;

said guide roller comprising:

a roller core;

a fabric tube fitted under pressure over said roller core; and

a pair of pressers mounted respectively in axial ends of said roller core to hold and secure respective ends of said fabric tube in the axial ends of said roller core,

wherein a clearance is provided between each of the pressers and a shaft.

2. A sheet member guide mechanism according to claim 1, wherein the roller core is rotatably supported on the shaft.

3. A sheet member guide mechanism according to claim 1, wherein ends of said fabric tube are made thicker than the remaining portion of said fabric tube by heat pressing, and said pressers have respective larger-diameter portions for pressing said ends of said fabric tube and respective smaller

diameter portions for pressing said remaining portion of said fabric tube.

4. A sheet member guide mechanism according to claim 1, wherein said roller core comprises a hollow roller.

5. A sheet member guide mechanism according to claim 1, wherein the axial length of said fabric tube is longer than the axial length of said roller core.

6. A sheet member guide mechanism according to claim 1, further comprising a pair of spacers coupled to said pair of pressers.